

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An elapsed time apparatus capable of adding an elapsed time to a digital image generated by a digital image capturing device, comprising:

a counter capable of measuring an elapsed time between a first image capture and a second image capture;

a memory ~~capable of storing that stores~~ a plurality of digital images and ~~further capable of storing at least one~~ a plurality of different elapsed time value values, wherein each said different elapsed time value is associated with a digital image; and

a processor communicating with said counter and said memory and obtaining an elapsed time value from said counter upon said second image capture, and ~~adding storing~~ said obtained elapsed time value ~~to a second digital image captured during said second image capture in said memory; and~~

at least one input device enabling a user to select at least one of the plurality of elapsed time values stored in said memory and to instruct the processor to add the selected elapsed time value to the digital image with which the selected elapsed time value is associated.

2. Canceled.

3. (Original) The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, wherein said processor starts said counter upon capture of a first digital image and reads an elapsed time value from said counter upon capture of said second digital image.

4. (Original) The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, further comprising at least one input device capable of accepting a user input that selects or de-selects an elapsed time mode, and wherein said memory stores an elapsed time value for each digital image captured during said elapsed time mode.

5. Canceled

6. (Original) The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, wherein said memory stores said elapsed time value in an elapsed time storage associated with said digital image.

7. (Original) The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, wherein said digital image is stored in an image storage and said adding step overwrites said elapsed time value onto a portion of said digital image stored in said image storage.

8. (Currently Amended) An elapsed time apparatus capable of adding an elapsed time to a digital image generated by a digital image capturing device, comprising:

an elapsed time counter ~~capable of being~~ that is reset upon in response to a first image capture;

a memory capable of storing a plurality of digital images and further capable of storing at least one elapsed time value; and

a processor communicating with said counter and said memory and starting said elapsed time counter upon said first image capture, reading an elapsed time value from said elapsed time counter upon a second image capture, and adding said elapsed time value to a second digital image captured during said second image capture.

9. (Original) The elapsed time apparatus of claim 8, further comprising at least one input device capable of accepting a user input that selects or de-selects an elapsed time mode, and wherein said memory stores an elapsed time value for each digital image captured during said elapsed time mode.

10. (Currently Amended) The elapsed time apparatus of claim 8, further comprising at least one input device ~~capable of accepting a user input that selects and adds a particular elapsed time value to a corresponding stored digital image~~ at least one input device that enables a user to select at least one of a plurality of elapsed time values stored in said memory and instruct the processor to add the selected elapsed time value to a digital image with which the selected elapsed time value is associated.

11. (Original) The elapsed time apparatus of claim 8, where in said memory stores said elapsed time value in an elapsed time storage associated with said digital image.

12. (Original) The elapsed time apparatus of claim 8, wherein said digital image is stored in an image storage and said adding step overwrites said elapsed time value onto a portion of said digital image stored in said image storage.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented elapsed time generation method for ~~a digital~~ an image capturing device, comprising the steps of:

generating, in a counter of said image capturing device, an elapsed time value in a counter of representing an elapsed time between an event that causes the image capturing device to capture a first image capture and an event that causes the image capturing device to capture a second image capture in said digital image capturing device; and

adding said elapsed time value to said second digital image captured at said second image capture time, wherein

the step of generating the elapsed time value comprises: resetting said counter in response to the event that causes said image capturing device to capture the first image, and reading a time value from said counter in response to the event that causes said image capturing device to capture said second image.

14. Cancelled.

15. Cancelled

16. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 13, further comprising the step of accepting a user input that selects or de-selects an elapsed time mode, with an elapsed time value being generated for each ~~digital~~ image captured during said elapsed time mode.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 13, further comprising the step of accepting a user input that controls said adding of said elapsed time value to said ~~digital~~ second image.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 13, wherein said adding step further comprises the steps of:

storing said elapsed time value;
accepting a user input that selects an elapsed time value addition for said ~~digital~~ second image; and
adding said elapsed time value to said ~~digital~~ second image.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 13, wherein said adding step stores said elapsed time value in an elapsed time storage associated with said ~~digital~~ second image.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 13, wherein said ~~digital~~ second image is stored in an image storage and said adding step overwrites said elapsed time value onto a portion of said ~~digital~~ second image.